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Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 /110 R

DRAFTED BY USOAS:FMCNEIL:JD
APPROVED BY ARA - JBKUBISCH
ARA/CCA - MR. LITTLE
ARA/CCA - MR. JOHNSON
ARA/CAR - JWSIMMS
ARA - MR. SHLAUDEMAN
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P 241942Z MAY 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 109629

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, OAS, CU, DR
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT BALAGUER'S REPORTED REMARKS ON CUBA

REFS: A) STATE 080173 B) STATE 085748

1. IN MAY 20 ARTICLE AUTHORED BY LUIS OVIDIO SIGRAN, LATIN PRESS SERVICE IN SPANISH ATTRIBUTED FOLLOWING VIEWS ON CUBA TO PRESIDENT BALAGUER:

BEGIN TEXT: SOBRE EL CASO DE CUBA, DIJO QUE SU GOBIERNO MANTIENE UNA LINEA FLEXIBLE Y SE ACOGE A LA DECISION DE LA MAYORIA DEL BLOQUE LATINOAMERICANO. POR ELLO, NO TENDRIA NINGUNA OBJECION A LA PRESENCIA DE CUBA EN LA REUNION DE CANCILLERES DE BUENOS AIRES, EL PROXIMO ANO, EXPRESO. END TEXT

2. IF PRESIDENT BALAGUER'S REMARKS WERE REPORTED CORRECTLY HE MAY HAVE MISUNDERSTOOD WHAT ACTUALLY TRANSPIRED WITH
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RESPECT TO CUBA AT APRIL 17-18 WASHINGTON MFM. NO

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CONSENSUS ON INVITATION TO CUBA WAS REACHED, RATHER THE FOREIGN MINISTERS AGREED, IN THE ABSENCE OF A CONSENSUS, TO HAVE ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER CONSULT WITH OTHER NATIONS ABOUT THE DESIRABILITY OF INVITATIONS TO CUBA AND CANADA FOR THE BUENOS AIRES MFM IN MARCH OF NEXT YEAR.

3. YOU SHOULD DRAW UPON REFTELS TO INFORM PRESIDENT BALAGUER OF THE ABOVE AT THE EARLIEST AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITY, PARTICULARLY NOTING SECRETARY'S REMARKS ON SUBJECT IN REF (B) AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY KUBISCH'S BACKGROUNDER (REF A) FOR PRESS ON APRIL 18. YOU SHOULD ADD THAT USG'S WELL KNOWN POSITION ON CUBA HAS NOT CHANGED AND THAT IN EXISTING CIRCUMSTANCES WE WOULD NOT FAVOR INVITATION TO CUBA.

4. WE EXPECT THAT ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER VIGNES WILL BEGIN HIS CONSULTATIONS AT A LATER DATE. FOR OUR PART, WE THINK IT BEST TO LEAVE THE CUBAN MATTER ALONE UNTIL WE ARE MUCH CLOSER TO THE DATE FOR THE BUENOS AIRES MFM. WE HOPE THAT PRESIDENT BALAGUER WILL ALSO TAKE THE ATTITUDE THAT ANY DECISIONS ABOUT CUBA AT THIS TIME WOULD BE QUITE PREMATURE. WE WILL CONSULT WITH THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND OTHER OAS COUNTRIES WHEN THE ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER ACTUALLY BEGINS HIS CONSULTATIONS. RUSH

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